

# LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

February 28, 2025

Issue # 7

## 2025 LEGISLATIVE NOTES By Kody Kyriss, SDATAT Lobbyist

The seventh week of the 100th legislative session is complete, and it was a very busy but successful week for your Association. Tuesday was Crossover Day – the most significant deadline in legislative session before session is done in a couple weeks. For your Association leadership and I, we were focused primarily on **SB 95** and **HB 1261**.

Your Association leadership and I continue to track several bills of interest to your Association. **SB 169**, An Act to require that taxing districts hold a public hearing when increasing property tax revenues compared to the previous year, was amended to require hearing for all entities that intend to impose an excess tax levy. SB 169, as amended, was praised as reaching compromise and, as a result, passed the Senate Taxation and the Senate floor unanimously.

Additionally, **HB 1218**, An Act to prohibit certain political subdivisions from imposing firearm restrictions on the county, municipal, and township employees, officers, and volunteers remains alive and has been referred to Senate Local Government awaiting hearing. Your Association leadership and I will continue to monitor SB 169 and HB 1218 as they move throughout the legislative process.

Your Association continues to prioritize **SB 95**, funding for the Rural Access Infrastructure Fund. SB 95 was heard in Joint Appropriations on February 27, 2024 where it was amended to \$100 and passed unanimously. While the \$100 amendment may sound discouraging, it is considered a routine practice and allows the bill to proceed to the next process and allow legislators to ultimately weigh all appropriation requests and priorities. It is common for the two chambers to

eventually amend the bill again to a final amount prior to session ending.

After a long fight, your Association prevailed in seeing **HB 1261** defeated. As a reminder from previous newsletters, your Association's primary concern of this bill is its removing authority and control from townships and landowners and giving this authority and control to counties for rural economic development. HB 1261 was heard on Wednesday in Senate Local Government. Your Association leadership and I spent a significant amount of time in preparing for this hearing. Despite strong objections and testimony from the opponents, the bill passed to the Senate floor 4-3.

We knew the bill would be heard on the Senate floor the next day and planned accordingly. I then spent most of Thursday morning talking to legislators about why we opposed HB 1261, despite the positive talking points that have been associated with it. After some debate by legislators on both sides, the bill ultimately failed to pass by a vote of **14-21**. This allows your Association leadership to work with the other stakeholders and produce a bill that most agricultural groups, producers, townships, and landowners should be able to support.

The busiest time of legislature is complete. However, a lot can happen in the final two weeks of session. I will do my best to stay present and vigilant in the halls of the Capitol and report to your Association leadership to the best of my ability. As a final thought, I want to thank each and every one of you for staying engaged and involved with South Dakota's legislative process. Your thoughts, concerns, and opinions mean more than you realize.

**SDATAT's Bills (Strong Support)**

**SB 95** make an appropriation to the Department of Revenue for distribution to county rural access infrastructure funds and to declare an emergency.

02/05/2025 Senate Transportation Referred as Amended to Joint Appropriations, Passed, YEAS 7, NAYS 0.  
 02/27/2025 Joint Committee on Appropriations Do Pass Amended, Passed, YEAS 18, NAYS 0.

**SDATAT's Bills (Strong Oppose)**

**HB 1261** provide the board of commissioners with authority over certain intra-county land uses and construction projects. Sponsors: Representative Peterson (Drew) (prime), Bathke, Roe, Sjaarda and Senator Perry

02/13/2025 Prime Sponsor Changed at the Request of the Prime Sponsor  
 02/26/2025 Senate Local Government Do Pass, Passed, YEAS 4, NAYS 3.  
 02/27/2025 Senate Do Pass, **Failed**, YEAS 14, NAYS 21.

**BILLS OF INTEREST:**

**HB 1052** prohibit the exercise of eminent domain for a pipeline that carries carbon oxide.

1/24/2025 House State Affairs Passed, YEAS 10, NAYS 3.  
 1/27/2025 House of Representatives Do Pass, Passed, YEAS 49, NAYS 19  
 03/03/2025 Scheduled Senate State Affairs S.J. 218

**HB 1059** clarify the meaning of teleconference for purposes of open meeting requirements.

01/23/2025 House Local Government Do Pass Amended, Passed, YEAS 12, NAYS 1.  
 01/27/2025 House of Representatives Do Pass Amended, Passed, YEAS 68, NAYS 0  
 03/03/2025 Scheduled Senate State Affairs

**HB 1173** eliminate the cap on assessment amounts for road improvements.

02/24/2025 Senate Do Pass, Passed, YEAS 35, NAYS 0  
 02/27/2025 Delivered to the Governor on Thursday, February 27, 2025

**SB 45** impose a motor vehicle technology fee to support and enhance technology used to administer motor vehicle services, and to make an appropriation therefor.

02/07/2025 Senate Transportation Referred to Joint Committee on Appropriations, Passed, YEAS 7, NAYS 0.  
 02/21/2025 Joint Committee on Appropriations


**SB 74** require the publication and review of an explanation of the open meeting laws of this state.

02/13/2025 Signed by the Governor on Wednesday, February 12, 2025 S.J. 262

**SB 198** establish conditions a prospective condemnor must satisfy before commencing condemnation proceedings Sponsors: Senators Mehlhaff (prime) and Crabtree

02/11/2025 Prime Sponsor Changed at the Request of the Prime Sponsor S.J. 234  
 02/19/2025 Senate State Affairs Do Pass Amended, Passed, YEAS 5, NAYS 3.  
 02/21/2025 Senate Do Pass Amended, Failed, YEAS 17, NAYS 16  
 02/24/2025 Senate Reconsidered, Passed, YEAS 19, NAYS 16. S.J. 352  
 02/24/2025 Senate Do Pass Amended, Passed, YEAS 18, NAYS 17. S.J. 353  
 03/03/2025 Scheduled House State Affairs

# 100<sup>th</sup> SOUTH DAKOTA LEGISLATIVE SESSION CALENDAR

2025  38 Legislative Days



Please refer to the Joint Rules, Chapter 17 for complete information.

	Sun	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat
<b>January 2025</b>				1	2	3	4
	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	12	13	14 Session Opens 12 Noon(CST)  State of the State  LD 1	15 State of the Judiciary 10:00am  State of the Tribes 1:00pm  LD 2	16   LD 3	17   LD 4	18
	19	20 Martin Luther King Jr. Day	21 Executive orders filed (Constitution, Art. IV, Sec. 8)  LD 5	22   LD 6	23 Jt. Memorial Service 3:00pm  LD 7	24   LD 8	25
	26	27   LD 9	28 Bill and resolution draft requests due to LRC by 5:00pm (for unlimited introduction)  LD 10	29   LD 11	30 Last day for unlimited bill and resolution introduction (JR 6B-3) (TWO HOURS prior to session)  LD 12	31	1
<b>February 2025</b>	2	3 All bill and resolution draft requests due to LRC by 5:00pm  LD 13	4 Committee bill and resolution draft requests due to LRC by 5:00pm  LD 14	5 Last day for introduction of individual bills and resolutions (TWO HOURS prior to session)  LD 15	6 Last day for introduction of committee bills and resolutions (TWO HOURS prior to session)  LD 16	7   LD 17	8
	9	10   LD 18	11   LD 19	12   LD 20	13 Last day for JCA selection of general fund revenue targets (JR 7-11.1)  LD 21	14   LD 25	15
	16	17 Presidents' Day	18   LD 22	19   LD 23	20   LD 24	21   LD 25	22
	23	24 Last day to move required delivery of bills or resolutions by a committee to the house of origin, and Last day to use JR 5-17  LD 26	25 Last day to pass bills or joint resolutions by the house of origin (Crossover Day), and Last day to invoke JR 7-7 in the house of origin  LD 27	26   LD 28	27 Last day for JCA to move required delivery of special appropriation bills to house of origin (JR 17-1)  LD 29	28   LD 29	1
	2	3 Last day for house of origin to pass special appropriation bills referred from JCA (JR 17-1), and Commemoration requests due to LRC by 5:00pm  LD 30	4   LD 31	5 JR 5-13 in effect, and Last day for introduction of commemorations (TWO HOURS prior to session)  LD 32	6 Last day to move required delivery of bills or joint resolutions by a committee to the second house  LD 33	7   LD 33	8
<b>March 2025</b>	9	10 Last day for a bill or joint resolution to pass both houses, and Last day to invoke JR 7-7 in the second house  LD 34	11   LD 35	12   LD 36	13   LD 37	14   LD 37	15
	16	17   LD 34	18   LD 35	19   LD 36	20   LD 37	21   LD 37	22
	23	24   LD 34	25   LD 35	26   LD 36	27   LD 37	28   LD 37	29
	30	31 Reserved for consideration of gubernatorial vetoes  LD 38	1   LD 38	2   LD 38	3   LD 38	4   LD 38	5

**A person may submit a request to appear from a remote site and give testimony before this committee. Submit requests, a digital handout, or written testimony at least 24 hours before the scheduled meeting to [houselocalgov@sdlegislature.gov](mailto:houselocalgov@sdlegislature.gov)**

## **Get Involved With Legislation that Matters to You!**

1. Familiarize yourself with the names of the legislators that represent your county
2. Keep their contact information handy to reach them on short notice.
3. Attend local cracker barrels
4. Thank them for their positive efforts and remain cordial when discussing concerns
5. Be respectful when discussing pending legislation or opposition– keeping a good working relationship is very important to all of us.
6. Do not be afraid to testify on a subject you support or oppose during legislation session. Telephone testimony is acceptable if you sign up in advance.

### **[2025 Legislator Listing | South Dakota Legislature](#)**

**Click on the above link for your Legislator and how to contact them..**

## **TOWNSHIP CALENDAR**

**Feb 25th- Required Township meeting**

**March 4th - Required Township Annual Meeting (SDCL 8-3-1)**

**April 1st- SDATAT Scholarship Applications Due**

**April 15 - SDATAT Bond Applications Due**

**July 15 - Opt Outs Due**

### ***IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION***

**To Track Legislation** <http://legis.sd.gov/>

**To Listen To Committees Live:**

[http://legis.sd.gov/Legislative\\_Session/Committees/default.aspx](http://legis.sd.gov/Legislative_Session/Committees/default.aspx)

**Address:** Legislative Research Council  
Capitol Building, 3rd Floor - 500 East Capitol Avenue  
Pierre, SD 57501-5070

**Email general inquiries:** [LRC@sdlegislature.gov](mailto:LRC@sdlegislature.gov)

**Phone:**(605) 773-3251      **Staff Fax:** (605) 773-4576

**Fax a Message (to a specific legislator)** (605) 773-6806